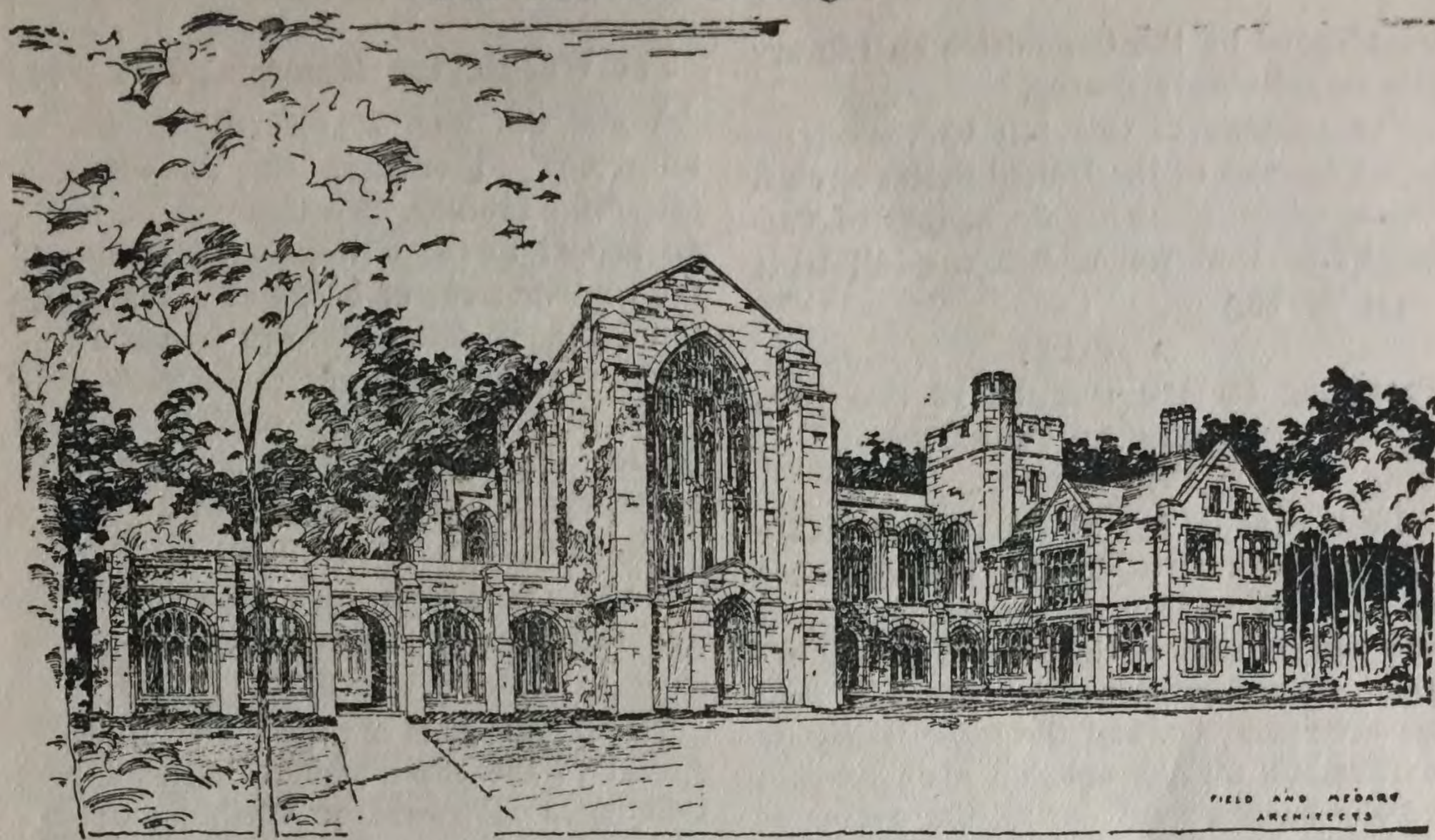
"For God and Country."



Cloister of the Colonies. Washington Memorial Chapel. Patriots' Hall. Tower and Rectory.

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England—is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY.

The Washington Chapel Chronicle

Valley Forge.

A RECORD OF RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE WASHINGTON CHAPEL GUILD.

MISS EMMA W. CRAWFORD, Editor. MRS. ROBERT WOOD, Business Manager

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VOL. II. MARCH 15, 1910 NO. 12

The Washington and Steuben Memorial Arches.

Congress has appropriated $50,000 for the erection of two gateways to the Park to be built in honor of Washington and Steuben. This commendable action on the part of the National Government after more than a century of neglect of one of the most sacred spots in America will be a source of rejoicing to all who love Valley Forge and revere its sacred memories.

To the Hon. Irving P. Wanger, M. C., belongs the honor of securing this noble gift from the Government, and the completed arches will be monuments of his patriotic zeal and patience, as well as memorials of those whose names have made Valley Forge glorious. Mr. Wanger introduced the bill for this purpose a year ago, and secured a favorable report on it by the Committee on Library, but it failed to pass. Undaunted by his failure in the Sixtieth Congress, Mr. Wanger again introduced the bill, and on the twenty-fifth of January it was committed to the Committtee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed. On the ninth of February the bill with the amendments re-

commended by the Committee on Library was unanimously passed.

The passage of this bill by the Sixty-first Congress of the United States is such an important event in the history of Valley Forge that we publish the full text:

(H. R. 55.)

A BILL.

Providing for the erection of two memorial arches at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the expenditure of the sum of fifty thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be, and the same is hereby authorized, for the erection upon the site of the encampment during the winter of seventeen hundred and seventy-seven to seventeen hundred and seventy-eight of the American Army at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, of two memorial arches at the principal entrances to Valley Forge Park, to be called "Washington memorial arch" and "Steuben memorial arch," respectively, in commemoration of the patriotism displayed and the suffering endured by General George Washington, his officers and men during said winter: Provided, That the money authorized to be expended as aforesaid shall be expended by the Valley Forge Park Commission under the direction of the Secretary of War, and that the location, plans, specifications, and designs for such arches shall be approved by the Secretary of War: Provided, further, That when such arches are erected the responsibility for the care and keeping of the same shall be with the said Valley Forge Park Commission or as may otherwise be provided by the State of Pennsylvania and without expense to the United States.

We are indeed happy to report our Rector's rapid convalescence. It will add to Easter joys to know that he will again be with us.

The Washington Memorial Library.

While the Rev. Mr. Burk was ill he undertook to enlarge the Washington Memorial Library. To this end he made an appeal to the citizens of Norristown for contributions of books as a Washington Birthday gift. Fifteen hundred appeals were printed and these were distributed by the boys of All Saints' Church. In conformity to a borough ordinance the appeals were placed in envelopes. On these was printed:

TO AN AMERICAN PATRIOT
WHO WISHES TO HONOR
GEORGE WASHINGTON.

The following is a copy of Mr. Burk's appeal to the citizens of Norristown for this noble memorial of Washington:

To My Fellow Citizens:—

Dear Friends:

On Washington's birthday last year we first exhibited the small collection of books which we had gathered to form the Washington Memorial Library, Valley Forge. Without much effort the number has more than doubled since then. The object is such an important one—the establishment of a great library of American history in honor of the Father of His Country—that we feel the time has come to make an effort to increase the library.

In almost every house there are books which are useless because they no longer are of interest to the family. They cumber the shelves and collect the dust. These books, if part of a great collection, would be useful and of real value to students. We, therefore, ask you to look over your books and see if there be one or more you will give in memory of Washington.

What kind of books do we want? All kinds, but especially histories and biographies. We want even almanacs and directories, files of newspapers, pamphlets, maps, and pictures of famous American places, events and persons.

You may send the books to All Saints' Parish House, or if you will send me a

postal or telephone to 879 D, we will send for them. We hope you will respond to this appeal on or before Washington's birthday.

Please write your name and address on the fly leaf of all books donated, that your gift may be properly recorded.

Hoping you will co-operate with us and honor Washington, I am,

Faithfully yours,

W. HERBERT BURK.

All Saints' Rectory, Feb. 15, 1910.

The following articles are desired for the Valley Forge Museum of American History: Weapons of all kinds, china, furniture and odd household articles, coins and medals, wearing apparel of former periods, musical instruments, etc.

The Norristown papers most generously supported Mr. Burk in this work, and "The Norristown Herald," "The Daily Register" and "The Times" not only gave space in their columns for the appeal and reports of the collection, but made editorial appeals for the work. While the response was not what might have been expected from a community of such size, it fully justified the effort, and the Norristown papers and the contributors deserve the gratitude of all who revere the memory of Washington and hold sacred the memories of Valley Forge.

The following is the list of contributors with the number of volumes given:

Rev. W. Herbert Burk, 25; Edward C. Fling, 2; Miss Delia P. Gibson, 1; Mrs. R. S. P. Reifsnyder, 2; Miss Hettie B. Sisler, 1 and almanac; Mr. Isaac K. Moyer, 7; Dr. S. N. Wiley, 19; Mrs. Wm. H. Ramsey, 12; Mrs. I. H. Brendlinger, 6; Miss Rachel Rittenhouse, 5 and 25 almanacs and number of pamphlets; Mrs. Emma C. Jones, 3; Mr. Oliver A. Fillman, 11 and 6 almanacs; Mrs. Frank Jones, 1; Unmarked, 4; Miss Powell, Port Kennedy, 20; Katie Auer Hoefer, 2; Mrs. Chas. B. Henk, 8 vols.; Miss Lizzie M. Moore, 3 and 2 pamphlets; Mrs. James McGinnis, 11 and 2 pamphlets; Mrs. M. J. Lynch, Sr., 14; Miss Katharine C. Corson, 1; Mrs. Laura Slingluff Harry, 4; Miss Marguerite McCrea, 2; A Friend, 2; Mr. Jesse G. Hutchison, 6; Miss Carrie Bolton, 1; Miss Eleanor H. Stroud, 1.

It may be of interest, by way of comparison, to note that this Washington birthday addition to the library is just about one-half the original foundation of the great library of Harvard College, John Harvard's gift consisting of 320 volumes.

THE PATRIOTS' HALL.

THE FOUNDERS.

Anna Rebecca Drayton, East Orange, N. J.	$1 00
Mary Lucy Allen, Pittsburgh, Pa.	1 00
Mrs. Amelia Lee Benedict, New Haven, Conn.	1 00
S. H. Ford, Morristown, N. J.	1 00
Mrs. Theodore C. Bates, Worcester, Mass.	1 00
Mrs. Elizabeth B. Marselis Birchler, Central Islip, N. Y.	1 00
Mary George White, Baltimore, Md.	1 00
Emily E. Beebe, Boston, Mass.	1 00
Mary Miller, Pawtucket, R. I.	1 00
Estelle H. Stephens, Montclair, N. J.	1 00
M. Rebecca Duval, Baltimore, Md.	1 00
Mrs. Achsah C. Dunham, Ocean Grove, N. J.	1 00
	$12 00
Previously reported	$739 00
	$751 00

Martha Washington Tea Room.

Under the auspices of the Guild a tea room will be opened in the Parish House adjoining the Chapel, on Saturday afternoon. Three members of the Senior Guild, assisted by members from the Junior, will take charge of it each Saturday. It is hoped that the many friends of the Chapel will not only patronize the tea room, but will also help to spread the news of its establishment.

Washington Memorial Chapel,
Valley Forge, Pa.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK
MINISTER IN CHARGE,
ALL SAINTS RECTORY, NORRISTOWN.

THE REV. FRANCIS T. H. FINN
ASSISTANT,
PORT KENNEDY.

Mr. Frank Quigg, Treasurer,
Port Kennedy, Pa.
Mr. Leslie Jefferis,
Treasurer of the Building Fund,
Bridgeport, Pa.
William Rumford, Sexton.

Sundays.

2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

3.45 P. M. Service and Sermon.

Second Sunday of the month, 10.30 A. M. Service, Sermon and Holy Communion.

Stewart Fund Hall
Sundays.

10.00 A. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

11.00 A. M. Service and Sermon.

Calendar.

MARCH.

16. 3 p. m. Service and sermon. Stewart Fund Hall. Rev. R. Marshall Harrison, D. D.
19. 3 p. m. Service and sermon. Rev. George J. Wallenta, St. John's Church, Norristown.
20. Sunday next before Easter.
24. Thursday before Easter. 7.30 p. m. Holy Communion and sermon.
25. Good Friday. 10 a. m. Service, sermon and Holy Communion.
26. Easter Even. 3 p. m. Service and sermon. Rev. W. Herbert Burk.
27. Easter Day. 10.30 a. m. Service, sermon and Holy Communion.
    2.30 p. m. Sunday school.
    3.45 p. m. Easter festival of the Sunday schools.
    7.30 p. m. Easter service. Stewart Fund Hall.
28. 3 p. m. Congregational meeting.

APRIL.

3. First Sunday after Easter.
6. 3 p. m. Guild Meeting.
10. Second Sunday after Easter.

The regular monthly meeting of the Guild was held on Wednesday, March 2d, at Stewart Fund Hall, King-of-Prussia. The usual order of business followed. The only new plan proposed was the establishment of a Tea Room in the Parish House of the Chapel. This met with decided approval. The meeting adjourned to meet in the Parish House, Wednesday, April 6. Following the meeting the Guild attended the service which was conducted by the Rev. Robert J. McFetridge, of the Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr.

The Lenten services, both at the Chapel and King-of-Prussia, have been most helpful. Mr. Finn has secured very interesting speakers for the services, and the attendance has shown that his zealous efforts are appreciated. Mr. Finn has since Mr. Burk's illness very willingly, cheerfully and loyally done the work of two men and should have the support and encouragement of every one. It is hoped that all communicants of the Chapel will attend the Easter morning service; that in addition to our realization of the meaning of this most important church day, we may further show that Mr. Finn's faithful and loving service is fully valued and appreciated.

On Washington's Birthday a dinner and supper were served in the Parish House under the auspices of the Sunday school, assisted by the Martha Washington Guild. All the workers certainly deserve a great deal of credit for the success of the under taking. Over a hundred dollars were realized, which was remarkable when one considers the unfavorable weather and state of the roads.

Honor Roll for February.

The names of those missing no session of the Sunday school during the month of February follow:

Bible Class, Mr. E. T. Boggs, teacher.—Mrs. Pechin, John Warriner, Miss Mary Andrews, Miss Jane Stoddart, Miss Anna Andrews, Mrs. Warriner.

Girls' Class, Miss A. W. Pechin, teacher. —Martha Andrews, Eleanor Andrews, Alva Andrews, Hilda Bean, Esther Wheatland.

Boys' Class, Rev. F. T. H. Finn, teacher. —David Beynan, John Hughes, Charles Gebhardt, Ernest Stapler, Francis Fennimore, Jr.

Infant Class, Miss M. S. Stephens, teacher.—Margretta Gebhardt, Helen McCurdy.

Urgent needs for the Tea Room:
One yard square table cloths.
Plated spooms.
Lemonade straws.
Plain white paper napkins.
Small flower vases.

Washington's Birthday at Valley Forge.

The spending of Washington's Birthday among the hills of Valley Forge is something to stir the heart of any patriot, and a goodly number journeyed to the Washington Memorial Chapel yesterday.

A bountiful dinner and, after five o'clock, a supper, were served by members of the Sunday school.

At 7.30 there was a service of evening prayer in the Chapel to which the P. O. S. of A. journeyed from Valley Forge, marching into the church with the choir.

The fife and drum corps looked very picturesque in their bright uniforms, and added to the occasion by playing patriotic airs in the beautiful moonlight.

The preacher of the evening was the Rev. Henry Martin Medary, of the Church of the Advocate, Philadelphia. He took a text from the prophet Joel. "Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears," and a second text from Micah, "They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks." The preacher developed his discourse carefully, showing these old-time texts as suitable for our United States of America as for Israel, and that they were not contradictory, but complimentary.

That these calls did not mean no soldiery, nor yet again a professional soldiery, but between these—a citizen soldiership.

This has been exemplified among nations by our own country, and taking two contemporary individuals by Bonaparte as a professional soldier and George Washington—ready and able to beat the spears into pruning hooks.

Mr. Medary's sermon will be printed in our next issue.

The time has come for the renewal of subscriptions for the "Chronicle," and it is hoped that each subscriber will not only renew his or her subscription but, having the interest of the Chapel at heart, will also endeavor to secure at least one new subscriber. It is needless to reiterate the great advantage the "Chronicle" has proved to the Chapel; but it, like everything else, must have financial support. Can we not double our subscription list?

Work on the rag carpet is progressing. It has so stimulated the working spirit of the Guild that the members are anxious for more orders. Communicate with head of working chapter, Mrs. Summerill, Port Kennedy, Pa.

"Urged by self-preservation to exert the strength which Providence has given us to defend our natural rights, the event we leave to Him who speaks the fate of nations, in humble confidence that He will not withdraw His countenance from a people who array themselves under His banner."—Washington.

History of the Valley Forge.

BY HENRY WOODMAN.

[From Norristown Herald July 3 1850. (Bucks County Intelligencer.)]

LETTER IV.

(CONTINUED.)

At that time there were none of the comfortable accommodations we now possess; no steamboats passing swiftly and majestically upon the navigable rivers; no locomotives with their splendid travelling cars on finely graded railroads, moving with incredible velocity from place to place, of which they could avail themselves.

They had not at that time the comfortable sheltered wagons or carriages of the present day to protect them from the descending showers. Deprived of all these advantages that we of the present day can enjoy, solitary and alone at this precarious time, these two females undertook their journey on horseback, having in their journey to cross the river Schuylkill, swelled by heavy rains, and over which there were at that time no bridges, and the ferries destroyed, to check the progress of the British army in their march to obtain possession of the city of Philadelphia.

Their first effort was to cross the river. On arriving at the old Swedes' Ford, they found it too high to ride, and no conveniences for crossing over.

They next proceeded down the stream about a mile to the house of a man named John Rambo, who, on account of his dexterity in managing a canoe, was called Canoe John Rambo.

He engaged to convey them over provided they would sit in the canoe, in which was placed their saddles and baggage and hold their horses by the bridles, that they might swim across the stream.

To the proposals they willingly acceded and were conveyed by him kindly and without charge, to the opposite side of the river, where they arrived safe.

He assisted them to resume their journey, and in the afternoon of the day that they left home they arrived safely in the city.

They called upon a person with whom they were acquainted, named John Williams, a son-in-law of the aforesaid Thomas Waters, with whom they spent that and the succeeding night.

He being a man of some influence, he procured an order to enable them to proceed in their search, and volunteered to accompany and assist them in their undertaking.

A day and a half were spent in fruitless search through the hospitals, the infirmaries and barracks. In the course of this search, she with her companions, were witnesses to many appalling scenes of suffering and distress, as well as many loathsome sights of the dead and dying, promiscuously together; some suffering from severe wounds and uttering dismal shrieks and groans, surgeons performing operations of various kinds and others suffering from recent amputations of dangerous kinds, enough as I have often heard her mention, to make the stoutest heart shudder, and the most cruel abhor the practice of war; a full description of which if it were necessary, could not be given here.

Not being able to obtain the slightest information of the object of their search, they concluded he must be dead, and then abandoned all further pursuit, and prepared to return home.

Making a few hasty purchases of some articles they stood in need of, they commenced their homeward journey on the afternoon of the third day after their departure.

Having proceeded a few miles on the road, and drawing near the Falls of Schuylkill, they saw at some distance before them, and coming to meet them, a soldier wearing the American uniform.

My mother proposed to her aunt to inquire of him concerning her son, but she refused, saying, "I will inquire no longer—

he is dead; and it is no use to give myself any further trouble." When they met, mother cast her eyes upon him and he spoke respectfully. She then asked him whether he knew a soldier named Jehu Stephens.

"Yes," said he, "and he is now in that house yonder," pointing to one some distance before them on the road; "he, with many others of us, have been there for some time, sick with the camp fever; he is now better and able to walk about. We were brought here before the battle of Brandywine for the benefit of pure air to facilitate our recovery. If you wish to see him I will return with you to the house."

Their eyes filled with tears of joy on the discovery, and the soldier returned with them to the place. As soon as their voices were heard they were recognized by him whom they were seeking, and as soon as the weak state of his health permitted, he came down stairs and stood before them, pale and emaciated, an object suffering under the effects of a tedious illness, often in want of the attention necessary to the afflicted, for while treated as kindly as circumstances would permit, yet such was their peculiar situation, that things necessary for their comfortable provision could not be procured.

They conveyed him to a tavern near, provided him with a comfortable meal, left some things with him that he stood in need of, and then proceded on their journey.

And they met with some interesting adventures on their journey, and after their arrival at home, they will form part of my next letter.

[End of Letter No. 4.]

The Chapel has always been beautiful on Easter day, and we do not want this year to be any exception. Contributions toward the Easter flowers may be sent Mrs. Chas. Wells Walker, Devon, Pa., or to any member of the Guild.

A VALLEY FORGE ORDERLY BOOK.

Printed by Courtesy of Its late Owner Mr. George Clifford Thomas.

Head Quarters Valley Forge Jany 20th 1778

Major Genl.....Tomorrow.....De La Fayette
Brigadier..... .... Weeden
Field officers.....Colo. Pattin Major Fish
Brigade Major..... ....Marden

The Genl. officers & officers commanding Brigades are are desired to meet at Genl. Sullivans Quarters Tomorrow Morning at 10 OClock in order to Consider of the Expediency of Opening a Publick market In Camp; They are to take into consideration the proper Place and days of Holding a Markett.—The Regulations and proper Gaurds to preserve good order, The price proper to be offered upon each Article, in the Settlement of which they should Endeavour to consult some of the Most Inteligent Country men. Some Plans that have been Proposed will be laid before them at the time of meeting. A Report of their proceedings to be sent to the Commander in Chief as soon as possible.—The Commander In Chief returns His warmest thanks to Capt. Lee and officers and Men of his Troops for the Victory which By their Superior bravery and address, they Gained, over a Part of the Enemies Dragoons who Trusting in their Numbers and Concealing their March by a Circuitous Rout attempting to Surprise them in their Quarters; He Has the satisfaction of Informing the Army that Capt. Lee's Vigilence Baffled the Enemies Designs That by Judiciously posting his men in his quarters, tho he had not a Sufficient number to post One to each Window He obliged the party Consisting of 200 disgracefully to Retire after repeted but fruitless Attempts to force their Way into the House, leaving two Killed & 4 Wounded with out Receiving any other damage on his part then having his Lieut. Mr. Lindsey Slightly wounded unless any of his out patroles should have been unfortunately wounded

And taken which is not yet known.—The General Positively forbids the burning of Fences Enjoin it upon all officers to use their Endeavors to prevent it, and bring To severe punishments those who shall offend therein.—The Commander in Chief is Informed that Capt. Lee and Lieut. Lindsey had but a Corpl. & 4 men to assist them in The manly Oppision Against the light Horse, Major Jennison Was accidentaly there, and Merits his share of the praise due to this Brave Little party.—

Genl. Greens orders.—

Genl. Paterson is Kind Enough to undertake the Superintendance of the Fortifycation of the left Wing.—All the men off duty in the Respective Brigades in this Army are to Perade every morning at Nine OClock to be employed in the Fortifycation of the Camp under The command of the General.—each Brigade is to send a Field officer to Command the fatague.—All officers Under the Rank of a Field officer are desired to turn out With the men.—His Excelly. the Commander in Chief desires the officers to exert themselves to put the Camp in a Defenceable Condition as soon as may be.

N Green Majr. Genl.

Letter from the Committee of Congress

Camp near the Valley Forge, Chester Co. Pennsylvania, Feb. 17, 1778.

Sir, We have the Honour of composing a Committee of Congress to confer with his Excell'y General Washington on the Affairs of the American Army. We find ourselves interrupted in our Progress to form an Arrangement & make the necessary Dispositions for the ensuing Campaign by a most alarming Scarcity in the Article of Meat. The Course of the Enemy tro this State & continued Draught of our own Army have exhausted a Country which never raised sufficient Flesh for its own Consumption. Your Excell's Discernm't will easily point out the Variety of melancholy Events which such an Evil must produce, & how affecting they must be to the Interests of the United States: Mutiny, Desertion, a Spirit of Depredation, & Plunder ending at last in a total Dissolution perhaps of our whole Army (A subject of great Exultation to our Enemies & Depression of our Friends) will be the immediate Consequences of this deplorable Failure unless some Remedy can be provided. Some of the Troops have been 4 Days without Meat, & the Prospects of the Commissaries are so light & precarious that Necessity obliges us to disclose our Situation & call most earnestly for your Assistance. Our limited Knowledge of the Resources of your State, & its present Condition forbids our pointing out any precise Mode in which this important Business of Supply can be affected & it is the less necessary, as the Zeal and Judgment manifested so frequently by your Excellency & the Gentlemen in Authority with you will so amply supply our Deficiency. We would only hint, that if from the peculiar Circumstances of the State of New York, it can afford us little or no Relief in furnishing this necessary Article of Subsistence, it may probably do much in the Transportation of it from other States. Our Situation obliges us to call for help of every kind & from every Quarter, & we flatter ourselves it will have its due effect in animating the faithful inhabitants of your State to the most vigorous Exertions. We are with the greatest Respect & Regard Your Excell'ys most obed. & very Hble. Serv'ts.

F. M. Dana,
Nath'el Folsom,
Jno. Harvie,
Gouv. Morris,
Jos. Reed.

Public Papers of George Clinton, No. 1080
Vol. 2:766,767.
Reply, No. 1129.